

Deep litter cubicle cushion POLSTA: straw consumption, time for maintenance, animal comfort

POLSTA has been specially developed for the difficult to maintain head space of the deep litter cubicle. It is intended to reduce formation of unwanted pits and therefore improve the acceptance of the cubicle. In addition, it reduces time for maintenance and straw consumption. First studies have already provided positive results.



Less straw consumption than in the regular deep litter cubicle

First examinations at the HBLFA Raumberg-Gumpenstein institute have shown that under the present test conditions straw savings of 0.4 kg per cow per day can be achieved with deep litter cubicles with POLSTA. This means saving 146 kg of straw per animal per year!

(Pausch & Moser, 2020)

Less time for maintenance and better cubicle condition

The examinations in Raumberg-Gumpenstein have also revealed a potential reduction in time for maintenance of about 18 minutes per animal per year. The mattress condition in cubicles with POLSTA was rated to be significantly better than in cubicles without POLSTA (more regular straw distribution and fewer "holes" in the mattress).

(Pausch & Moser, 2020)

Cows prefer cubicles with POLSTA

In a preference test within the framework of a Bachelor's thesis at the Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences cows preferred cubicles with POLSTA to the other deep litter cubicles. So, POLSTA cubicles were occupied much faster than the conventional cubicles.

(Dandl, 2019)

Practical experiences confirm that POLSTA has a positive impact on management costs and the acceptance of deep litter cubicle boxes. In particular, cows seem to clearly prefer "lying higher in the front".

